

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, immediately following the title of the invention, insert the following heading and sub-heading:

BACKGROUND

1. Technical Field

Page 1, line 16: delete "Background" and insert the following sub-heading:

2. Related Art

Page 2, 2nd full paragraph:

The next [[filed]] field is an 8-bit "Time-To-Live" (TTL) field, which aims to prevent datagrams from persisting (e.g. going around in loops) within a network. Historically, the TTL field limited a datagram's lifetime in seconds, but it has come to be a "hop count" field, with some attempt to maintain the original meaning by hops across large distances making themselves appear as multiple hops. The value may initially set at 255. Each packet switch (or router) that the datagram crosses decrements the TTL field by one (or maybe more at interfaces to long distance links). If the TTL field hits zero before reaching its intended destination, the packet is no longer forwarded by a packet switch and is thus discarded.

Bob BRISCOE, *et al.*
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Page 5, line 12: delete "Summary of the Invention" and insert the following heading:

BRIEF SUMMARY

Page 6, 1st – 2nd full paragraphs:

As will be explained in more detail later, embodiments of the present invention allow for solutions to be provided, amongst others, to one or both of two general problems, which can be regarded as separate but related. These problems can be summarized ~~summarised~~ as follows:

- 1) How to arrange for the provision of information to nodes characterizing ~~characterising~~ the downstream path from ~~[[those]]~~ that node; and
- 2) How to proof this information from falsification.

According to the present exemplary embodiment ~~invention~~, there is provided a data network comprising a provider node, a receiver node, and a plurality of intermediate nodes, the provider node being arranged to provide data to at least one of said intermediate nodes or to the receiver node, said intermediate nodes being arranged to receive data and forward data to at least one other intermediate node or to the receiver node, and the receiver node being arranged to receive data from at least one intermediate node or from the provider node; wherein: